

STATEMENT FROM THE SPRINGBORO ATHLETIC BOOSTER ASSOCIATION

Released: April 11, 2013

In an effort to dispel rumors, and to state the facts, the Springboro Athletic Boosters' Association releases the following statement:

On June 6th, 2012 the Athletic Boosters Board discovered a discrepancy between the Boosters' treasurer's report and the Association's bank statement. That same afternoon, the Boosters Board sought legal counsel as to how to proceed. That evening, the Booster treasurer was questioned by appropriate individuals from the Booster Board regarding the discrepancy. He immediately admitted to taking funds and agreed to restitution.

On June 13th, the Boosters treasurer made a deposit to the Boosters' account in the amount of \$143,390.43.

On June 14th, two representatives from the Boosters Board met with the Springboro Police to open an investigation. The purpose of this meeting was two-fold: 1) so that the crime committed could be dealt with appropriately, and 2) so that the police could investigate further as to any other funds that were due the Boosters. At this meeting, the police requested that the situation and investigation not be discussed in public, a request with which we have obliged. As a courtesy, we alerted the school administration of the situation. Members of the Springboro School Board chose not to comply with the police request and quickly released a statement that a \$130,000.00 donation was deposited to the Boosters' bank account. This was false and misleading information.

Two members of the Booster's Board have since met with the forensic accountant from the State's Attorney General's Office to aid in the investigation.

While the Springboro Athletic Boosters are truly saddened and frustrated by the betrayal of trust, we are confident we handled it with the utmost integrity, obtaining professional advice and assistance at every step. Throughout this ordeal, the Boosters' have fully cooperated with law enforcement to ensure the integrity of the investigation, as well as protect the interests and the trust of the community in the organization. A significant issue for the Boosters Association was compliance and cooperation with requests from law enforcement in order for the investigation to proceed and due process to be served, resulting in the Association's silence in this matter until such time as a resolution was reached.

During the course of the past year, the Boosters have instituted more stringent controls to prevent a situation such as this from occurring again, are working closely with the state and other agencies to reinstate our tax exempt status, a casualty of the previous treasurer's inadequate processes and controls, and are working toward a cooperative relationship with the Springboro Board of Education, rectifying the misinformation released to-date.

The Boosters are committed to our main objective: supporting Springboro athletes. We look forward to working with the Springboro community to ensure our athletic programs are the best they can be.

There will be no further comments from the Board of the Springboro Athletic Boosters Association at this time.